

PICTURE OF THE WEEK: Shark Attacks

Surfers around the world have been calling this year "sharky" season. It started with Bethany Hamilton's attack off the coast of Kauai last Halloween. At least 14 shark encounters have been reported from across the globe since Hamilton's attack.

The most recent U.S. sighting occurred Friday, May 28, in San Francisco. A great white shark knocked a surfer into the waves. Then, during Memorial Day weekend, two surfers suffered serious injuries off the coast of northeastern Brazil when they were attacked by a shark.

Great white shark attacks have increased over recent years, especially unprovoked attacks. In fact, 2001 is known as the Summer of the Shark. Why? It's the year with the highest number of known shark attacks. Most attacks in recent years have occurred in North American waters. However, there have also been shark encounters off the coasts of Australia, Brazil, South Africa, Fiji, India, Madagascar, and Venezuela.

Because of the "sharky" season, Underwater Adventures Aquarium in Minnesota is unveiling its new attraction early. Originally scheduled for July, a display of a surfboard attacked by a shark opened to the public on June 2. The fiberglass surfboard has two big semi-circles torn from it--the result of a shark attack off Guadalupe Island. The board's owner was safely on a boat when the shark attacked.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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WEEKLY NEWS 1: Wildfires in Florida

A 3,000 acre brush fire forced officials to close down a portion of Alligator Alley, one of two roads that cross the Florida Everglades. As the fire reduced visibility to zero, 60 miles of Interstate 75 had to be closed on Tuesday at 9PM. The part of the interstate that was closed began at State Road 29 in the west and included part of U.S. 27 in the east. Florida Highway Patrol was unsure when Alligator Alley would reopen. The flames were described as "shooting skyward," and black smoke billowed across the road.

Another fire has also consumed part of the southwestern portion of Florida. The wildfire burned 1,300 acres and forced the Florida Gulf Coast University to cancel classes on Tuesday. There was a time when the fire was within 40 feet of the campus, but then firefighters were able to contain 100 percent of it.

In the northern part of Florida, a blaze has consumed almost 3,000 acres. More than 100 firefighters fought the fire in the John Bethea State Forest north of Baxter. It was nearly 75 percent contained by Tuesday evening.

--Written by [Renee Clara](#)

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Read WEEKLY NEWS 2: Super Size Me 

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WEEKLY NEWS 2: Super Size Me

"Super Size Me" is a documentary by filmmaker Morgan Spurlock about the impact of a fast food diet. The documentary pinpoints fast food restaurants as one of the main sources of the obesity epidemic in the United States. Several television networks, such as MTV, have refused to air advertisements for the movie.

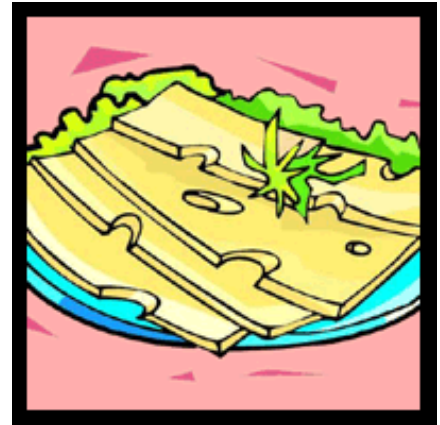
MTV rejected the advertisements for "Super Size Me" because the movie is believed to be unduly critical of fast food. Television networks are not alone in rejecting Spurlock's documentary. James K. Glassman, a nationally syndicated columnist, denounced the film by stating, "'Super Size Me' is not a serious look at a real health problem. It is, instead, an outrageously dishonest and dangerous piece of self-promotion. Through his antics, Spurlock sends precisely the wrong message. He absolves us of responsibility for our own fitness. We aren't to blame for being fat; big corporations are!"

"Super Size Me" chronicles Spurlock's journey across the country. During his experiment he ate only MacDonald's fast food. Spurlock consumed nothing but items on the MacDonald's menu for an entire month, and he tried everything on the menu at least once. He opted to super size his order if the MacDonald's server mentioned the super size option.

During the film Spurlock's weight increases, his cholesterol level skyrockets, and his mental health deteriorates. The film raises some interesting and controversial issues about fast food. "Super Size Me" shows the deteriorating health of one person who eats too much fast food, but critics believe that Spurlock's experiment is too unscientific to be a serious look at America's obesity problems.

--Written by [Vanessa Innes](#)

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WEEKLY NEWS 3: Charity Web Cast

On Monday, June 7, 2004, Samsung's Four Seasons of Hope will broadcast worldwide the first-of-its-kind web cast from New York City. Four Seasons of Hope is a charitable project that works with national retailers like Sears, Best Buy and Circuit City.

The web cast is part of the Four Seasons of Hope charity gala, which will take place in New York City. Even though the gala will be held in New York, anyone in the world can experience the festivities by logging onto the web cast at www.samsungusa.com/fsoh at 8:30PM on June 7.

So what type of entertainment will be part of this web cast? Famous people like former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, NY Giants star Michael Strahan and TV's Pat O'Brien will make appearances. There will even be a live music performance by Jon Bon Jovi.

The Four Seasons of Hope charities include The Magic Johnson Foundation (which strives to improve life in urban areas), Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation (which supports women and children who are victims of domestic violence), Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children & Women (which is the only hospital in the southeast dedicated to children and women), and Boomer Esiason Foundation to Benefit Cystic Fibrosis (which helps find a cure for cystic fibrosis). Jon Bon Jovi's charities include the Northern Home for Children and The Philadelphia Children's Alliance.

The money raised at the charity gala--through things like ticket sales, a silent auction and donations--will benefit these charities. To date, the Four Seasons of Hope has raised more than \$3 million for charity.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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WEEKLY NEWS 4: Star Treatment for Pets

On Wednesday, June 2, 2004, a group of celebrities revealed the "star treatment" their pampered pets receive. Celebrities like Billy Blanks, Linda Blair and Billy McNamara gathered at Westin Century Plaza in California for interviews and photo opportunities with their furry friends.

Hollywood's famous pets got pampered on camera by top animal experts. A massage therapist worked on a dog, an animal communicator "chatted" with a cat, and an oral expert checked out pet teeth! A holistic veterinarian talked about the latest ways to keep a pet healthy.

Why all this "fuzzy" buzz? It's a preview of the Animal Wellness Expo scheduled for June 5-6, 2004. The expo will be at Pasadena's Rose Bowl and will include all of the Los Angeles area animal rescue groups. More than 1,000 animals will be available for adoption, and animal experts from around the country will talk to participants. Attendees will learn about the latest news in animal health, nutrition and accessories.

Attendees to the expo will also be able to adopt a pet--or bring their own! There will be lots of opportunities for pets, including the "American Wellness Idol" competition, free sessions of massage, animal "communication," and dental care. There will also be hands-on demonstrations for kids at the Doggy Café.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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AROUND THE WORLD 1: Tiananmen Square Anniversary

China is observing the 15th anniversary of the historical protests that took place in the now-famous Tiananmen Square in Beijing. Many changes have taken place in China since the Tiananmen Square protests of June 3-4, 1989. However, security measures enacted by the Chinese government are evidence that many more reforms are needed.

Fifteen years ago thousands of people--most of them students--gathered to express complaints about the rigid control of the communist government in China. The people demanded reforms that would provide more freedoms and a more democratic system of government. China, the world's most populous country, has a reputation for human rights violations.

The Chinese government did not make democratic changes. Instead, in response to the protests, the military and police fought against the crowds. The Chinese forces used tanks and guns to break up the demonstrations even though the protesters did not have weapons. Hundreds of students and other Chinese citizens were killed during the incident.

Fifteen years have passed since the crisis in Tiananmen Square, but people around the world still have vivid memories of the incidents. The Chinese people will be observing the anniversary by reflecting on changes that have taken place over the past fifteen years and thinking about further changes that would improve life in China. Other countries are putting pressure on the Chinese government to investigate its actions and make changes to its human rights policies.

Knowing that so many people will be thinking back to the horrors of Tiananmen Square, the Chinese government has arranged for extra security personnel to be present in Tiananmen Square and in other places throughout China. The government is concerned that the anniversary might inspire frustrated citizens to again gather in protest. Several prominent Chinese reformists have been reported missing, sparking rumors that the government is holding them until the sensitive days have passed.

Although the Chinese government looks defiant in the face of pressures to reform, many people believe that it is only a matter of time before China experiences significant democratic reforms.

--Written by [Betsy Mesard](#)

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Read **AROUND THE WORLD 2: Decision About Oil** 

AROUND THE WORLD 2: Decision About Oil

The acronym OPEC stands for Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. OPEC is a group of countries who sell significant amounts of oil to other countries. There are eleven OPEC members including Iraq, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Iran. The organization meets occasionally to discuss how much oil they will export and how much the oil will cost. Last week the organization decided that the member countries would make more oil available to countries who wanted to buy it.

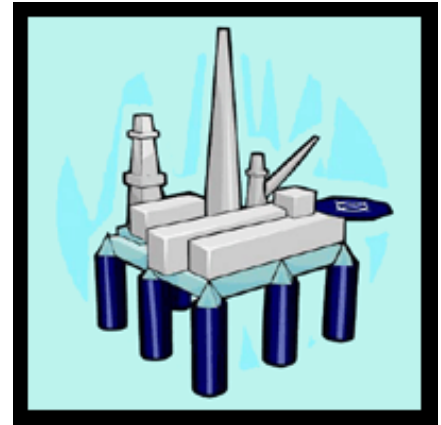
People are hoping that this decision by OPEC will make the price of oil and other petroleum products decrease. There is a general rule in economics that says that when supply increases, price decreases. Everyone is optimistic that the increased output of oil by OPEC countries will make the prices of petroleum products decrease.

The OPEC decision comes at a time when oil prices are higher than they have been in quite a while. Gasoline for automobiles costs more than two dollars a gallon in most U.S. cities. Airline companies are suffering because it costs so much money to fuel an airplane. Many people in the United States and around the world are unhappy about the prices and nervous about how the price of oil will affect the price of other products.

There are a number of different explanations for the current high oil prices, but most people agree that the war in Iraq is a significant factor. Additionally, last week in Saudi Arabia, terrorists attacked a business community. Whenever there is violence in a country that exports oil, the entire oil market seems to be affected. This is one reason why the United States is so interested in what happens in the Middle East region of the world--many countries in this region are members of OPEC.

--Written by [Betsy Mesard](#)

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Read **AROUND THE WORLD 3: Iraq Interim President** 

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AROUND THE WORLD 3: Iraq Interim President

Iraqi Council member Mahmoud Othman stated in a meeting on Monday that the future president of Iraq is the choice of Iraq only--not a decision to be made by America--since it is the country of Iraq that will be governed by the president.

The Iraqi council considered nominating its current leader, Sunni Muslim Ghazi Mashal Ajil al-Yawar. However, members of the United Nations preferred that former foreign minister Adnan Pachachi lead Iraq's interim government.

So which man did Iraq nominate? Iraq has named their new Interim President Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawar and his Cabinet. His Cabinet is made up of five regional officials and six women. President al-Yawar said at Tuesday's ceremony that his current main goals will be increasing the earnings of the military and all Iraqi families, unifying the country, and enhancing electricity, water and sewage.

President Bush has praised the new government. Bush stated that it embodies "the talent, the commitment and the resolve" for all that is to come in the new future of a free Iraq.

--Written by [Christina Newman](#)

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Read **AROUND THE WORLD 4: Rare Book Robberies Resolved** 

AROUND THE WORLD 4: Rare Book Robberies Resolved

From the late 1960s until 1978, Danish police were baffled as thousands of rare books gradually disappeared from Denmark's Royal Library. During that time more than 3,000 valuable books and documents were removed from the library without a trace. Some of these were one-of-a-kind, like atlases by a Dutch cartographer. Others were unique first editions of books by Immanuel Kant and John Milton. These thousands of books were worth nearly \$50 million--plus their historical value. So how did police eventually crack the case?

The major breakthrough came in March 2003. A famous British auction house, Christie's, alerted the Danish authorities about some suspicious activity. A woman had tried to sell them a rare book of Spanish poetry published in 1517. The book was so rare that there were only two copies known to exist in the entire world. One of them had been reported missing from Denmark's Royal Library. In addition, the book the woman tried to sell to Christie's had part of the Royal Library's stamp on it. The stamp is used to mark and keep track of the books.

The woman who tried to sell the book turned out to be the daughter-in-law of a man who had worked at the Royal Library for several years. As a librarian, he had full access to the works and could secretly remove them over time. Though he passed away, his wife and family still had the books in their house. A police raid turned up over 1,500 missing items! The family testified and said the man told them he bought the priceless books from a Danish book collector. The man's widow and son, however, admitted to hiding hundreds of books after the man's death. The widow and son tried to sell the books through friends. They made \$1.3 million from the books they managed to sell.

On June 3, 2004, three family members and a friend of the late librarian were convicted and sentenced to jail time for their roles in the robbery. The Royal Library, which opened in Copenhagen in 1648, says it has made leaps and bounds to improve security since the 1960s.

--Written by [Kari Ellassal](#)

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SPORTS ZONE 1: Jeter Back On Track

New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter has finally broken out of what seemed like a never ending batting slump. It was just last week that Jeter was batting .190.

After going 4 for 5 in the Yankees first game of a 12 game home stand, Jeter has moved his average up to a near respectable .233. Over 7 games Jeter has hit an amazing .517. During that span he has clubbed 3 home runs, two of which came against the Baltimore Orioles on Tuesday night, and he has batted in nine runs.

"I'm seeing the ball really well right now," said Jeter after the Yankees win at Yankee Stadium on Tuesday night. "When you feel comfortable at the plate the hits come much easier."

Jeter's hot hitting of late has helped propel the Yankees into first place in the American League East.

--Written by [Cris Sigovitch](#)

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Read [SPORTS ZONE 2: American Wins Indy 500](#)



SPORTS ZONE 2: American Wins Indy 500

On Sunday, May 30, Buddy Rice became the first American born driver since 1998 to win the Indianapolis 500. The 28-year-old Rice took over the lead late in the race, notching his first career victory under a caution flag as rain poured down on the track.

Rice, who was only racing because teammate Kenny Brack was out with injuries, drives for the team co-owned by late night talk show host and comedian David Letterman.

"This is unbelievable," said Rice after the race. "This is everything you work for. It's the biggest race in the world."

This was only the second time Rice has raced on the Indy track. Last year he placed a respectable 11th place.

The win has made Rice an instant star. On Tuesday he threw out the first pitch at the New York Yankees game. Earlier in the day he made the rounds on the early morning talk shows.

--Written by [Cris Sigovitch](#)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 1: Chocolate Good For Heart

Eating a single, small piece of dark chocolate each day can be good for your health. Why? Dark chocolate delivers good-for-you substances that expand your heart's arteries and increases blood flow, say experts.

Researchers at the University of California delivered the good news to chocolate lovers this week when they announced the findings of a study they conducted. The study examined chocolate and flavonoids. Flavonoids help reduce clogging in the arteries.

Dark chocolate's flavonoid content is higher than that of milk chocolate. The researchers fed a small group of lucky volunteers a 1.6 ounce piece of dark chocolate every day for two weeks. They fed another group of volunteers the same amount of milk chocolate every day for two weeks. When the scientists tested the volunteers after the two weeks had passed, they found that the people who ate the dark chocolate had increased blood flow and high levels of flavonoids in their blood, while people who had milk chocolate showed little to no improvement.

Scientists have known for a long time that eating chocolate can make you feel happy and boost your mood. Now they know it can have some positive effects on your physical body, too. But scientists don't recommend people chow on just any king-sized candy bar. It is important to have dark chocolate--not milk chocolate--to get the benefits, and it should be in small amounts since chocolate can have lots of fat and sugar. Folks who dislike chocolate can still get their flavonoids from other foods and drinks, including tea, almonds, fruits and vegetables. The study results were published in the Journal of the American College of Nutrition.

--Written by [Nia Williams](#)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2: Microscopic Fossils 

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2: Microscopic Fossils

A recent discovery by scientists turned up fossils of a tiny, ancient organism. The fossils may prove to be evidence of the earliest complex microscopic creature ever discovered.

By examining paper thin slices of 600 million-year-old rock under a microscope, the researchers found 10 specimens of a tiny, oval creature with evidence of a mouth and other physical features. The features of the creature indicated bilateral symmetry, a complex body type that displays two distinct sides--top and bottom, front and back, or left and right--when cut in half.

The researchers--scientists from the US, China and Taiwan--have dubbed the creature vernanimalcula, which means "small spring animal," because the deposit where it was found was formed just after a glacial period in Earth's history. Based on the specimens they examined, the scientists believe vernanimalcula was a multilayered creature that lived on the ocean floor.

Vernanimalcula is an important discovery. Paleontologists, the scientists who study fossils, have wondered whether organisms developed complex body systems before or after they evolved to be big in size. Until vernanimalcula was discovered, the oldest known creatures displaying the same level of complexity were larger and believed to have lived around 550 million years ago. The scientists published their findings recently in the Journal Science.

--Written by [Nia Williams](#).

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 1: Chocolate Good For Heart 

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On June 10, 1692, the first person in Salem, Massachusetts was convicted of being a witch and hung. For the next four months members of the community accused each other of witchcraft. Nineteen innocent men and women were executed before the Superior Court intervened and ended the executions.



On June 11, 1963, the University of Alabama was desegregated. Up until that time, African American students were not permitted to attend the university. Alabama Governor George Wallace finally allowed two African American students to enter the school when faced with federalized Alabama National Guard Troops.

On June 13, 1967, President Lyndon Johnson appointed U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Thurgood Marshall. Marshall was the first African American in history to sit on America's highest court. On September 2nd of the same year, Marshall was sworn in by Chief Justice Earl Warren.



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MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 1: Australian Miss Universe

A twenty-year-old from Australia won Miss Universe in Quito, Ecuador.

Jennifer Hawkins was chosen among 80 other contestants, each one representing their part of the globe. Hawkins is a model and dancer who enjoys surfing, camping and watching ballet. Miss USA, Shandi Finnessey, made her homeland proud by finishing in second place. Miss Puerto Rico, Miss Paraguay and Miss Trinidad and Tobago were among the top five finalists.

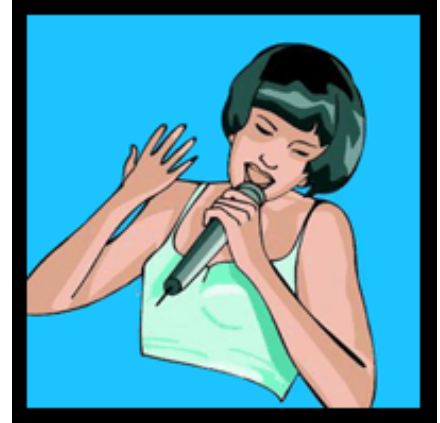
The Miss Universe competition began in California as a local "bathing beauty" contest fifty years ago. Today, hundreds of millions of fans watch the competition in 125 different countries. The Miss Universe competition is owned by real estate mogul, Donald Trump.

The 50-year-old competition and other similar beauty pageants are often criticized for degrading women. But some people view it as a competition that helps women advance their careers, pursue their personal and humanitarian goals, and improve the lives of others.

Miss Australia takes the crown from Amelia Vega, representative of the Dominican Republic. Hawkins will receive an apartment in New York City and free travel around the world to meet dignitaries, speak on behalf of the Miss Universe company, meet with charitable organizations and appear at events held by official sponsors.

--Written by [Lyssa Walker](#)

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Read MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 2: Second Place Success 

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 2: Second Place Success

Diana DeGarmo, runner-up on "American Idol," plans to release her single on June 22, 2004.

The 16-year-old lost to Fantasia Barrino by 1.3 million votes in the "Idol" finale, but it's not negatively affecting her singing career. Her single is being released through RCA Records, a very powerful record company that includes top artists like Dave Matthews Band, Kelly Clarkson and Christina Aguilera on their label.

Based on past "Idol" seasons, second place isn't such a bad thing. If Diana follows the footsteps of last year's runner-up, Clay Aiken, she will enjoy just as much fame as the winner. Aiken sold two million copies of his first CD and is played on the radio more than the second season winner Ruben Studdard.

Both Fantasia and Diana will join this year's finalists on a cross-country tour starting July 14. The tour will begin in Salt Lake City, Utah.

--Written by [Lyssa Walker](#)

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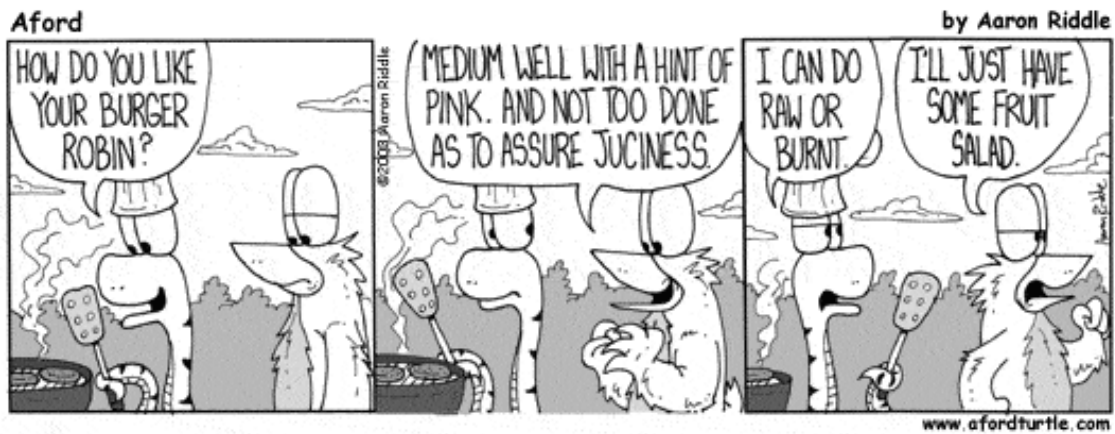


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COMICS & POEMS 1: Aford Turtle, Comic Strip



--Written by [Aaron Riddle](#)

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COMICS & POEMS 2: Rainbow Ride, Poetry Feature

Rainbow Ride

It's a magic thing
Like a fresh day in spring
An amazing light
The colors so bright
They fall from the sky
And catch your eye
When you see the glow
You will know
It's sent from above
With plenty of love
Remember to pray
Each and every day
That when it's your time
The light will shine
And you step inside
For your rainbow ride

--Written by [Sandra Gleason](#)

This poem is featured in **A Secret Language**, an Anthology of Poetry released by the International Library of Poetry in August 2002.

[Write your own story telling us what you think about this poem!](#)



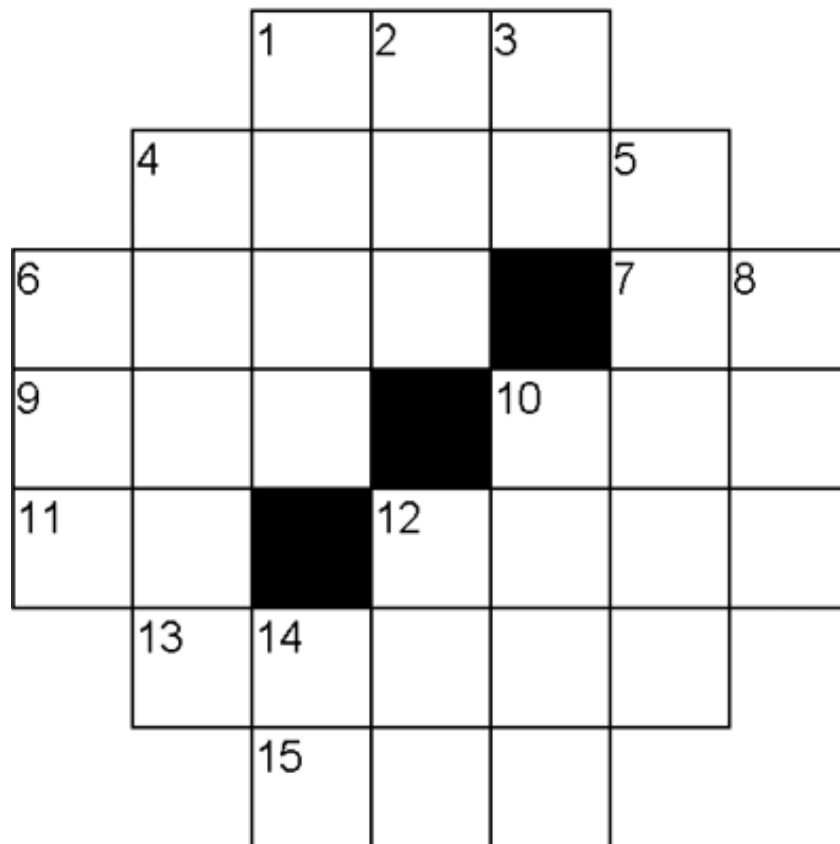
Read COMICS & POEMS 3: Rare Rides, Crossword 

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COMICS & POEMS 3: Rare Rides, Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Grain
- 4 Tops of bodies
- 6 Land-rover
- 7 Laughter sound
- 9 Grease
- 10 Remote
- 11 Emergency room
- 12 Wagon
- 13 Eat noisily
- 15 Sandwich abbrv.

DOWN

- 1 Keel
- 2 Talk
- 3 Mr. ___ (tv horse)
- 4 Successors
- 5 Mislead
- 6 Football player Montana
- 8 Music
- 10 Truth
- 12 California (abbr.)
- 14 Canadian prov.

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U.S. GOVERNMENT 1: EPA Orders Cleanup

On Wednesday, June 2, 2004, San Gabriel Valley water quality officials in California issued a statement praising the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its enforcement of its "cleanup order." Fifteen companies responsible for the pollution of groundwater in the South El Monte area have not yet come to an agreement with the EPA about cleaning up the mess, so the EPA is passing the responsibility to the U.S. Department of Justice. These companies include Chevron USA, Quaker Chemical Corporation and TDY Industries Inc.

The South El Monte area was placed on an environmental cleanup list in 1984 because of the pollutants found in the water. It took years for the government to find out which companies were responsible for polluting the area. Because of the environmental hazard, dozens of public water supply wells have been closed.

Some companies responsible for the pollution have already taken responsibility for their actions. But these fifteen companies are now in violation of the August 2003 cleanup order. Why? Because according to that order, the companies responsible for the pollution needed to provide a solution for funding the cleanup of the water. But these polluters have not yet proposed a workable solution. The polluters did submit a proposal for cleaning up the water, but the efforts proposed by these companies were inadequate.

Now, because they were unwilling to take adequate cleanup steps, each individual company's case will be referred to the U.S. Department of Justice. Each company could end up paying three times the cost of the cleanup--plus additional fines.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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Answer all of the questions on the quiz, then select the Score button to grade the quiz.

There are 15 Questions total.

1. What famous man owns the Miss Universe pageant?

- Bill Clinton
- Bill Gates
- Jay Leno
- Donald Trump

2. What is Derek Jeter's batting average over the last 7 games?

- .233
- .190
- .517
- .323

3. Which type of chocolate has the most flavonoids?

- white chocolate
- milk chocolate
- low-fat chocolate
- dark chocolate

4. What kind of film is Super Size Me?

- Action
- Documentary
- Experimental
- Biography

5. The culprit in the Danish Royal Library rare book libraries was:

- a bookseller
- an auctioneer
- a professional thief
- a librarian

6. How many acres were burned in the Florida Everglades?

- 3,000 acres
- 2,000 acres
- 1,000 acres
- 500 acres

7. What is OPEC?

- An organization of countries that export oil
- An organization of countries that buy oil
- A brand of petroleum products
- a United Nations organization

8. When was the last time an American born driver won the Indy 500?

- 1998
- 1989
- 2000
- 2003

9. What was happening in China's Tiananmen Square last week?

- Students held protests
- Security increased
- A big festival
- A music concert

10. What year is known as the Summer of the Shark?

- 1999
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002

11. What does "vernanimalcula" mean?

- tiny land creature
- big bug
- happy little animal
- small spring animal

12. How old is the Miss Universe competition?

- 100 years old
- 50 years old
- 25 years old
- 10 years old

13. How many companies are in violation of the EPA's "cleanup order" for the South El Monte area?

- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18

14. Who is Diana DeGarmo?

- A child actress
- runner-up on "American Idol"
- runner-up on "Survivor"
- A famous lawyer

15. Which one of these is not a main goal for Iraq's Interim President?

- increase earnings for military
- unifying the country
- enhancing electricity
- exporting more Iraqi products

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